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EXTRAORDINARY

PART II—Section 2

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LOK SABHA

The following Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha on the 10th September, 1957:—

BILL No. 71 OF 1957

A Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Eighth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Essential Commodities (Second Amendment) Act, 1957. Short title.

5 2. In sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, for clause (f), the following clause shall be substituted and Amendment of section 3.
10 of 1955. shall be deemed always to have been substituted, namely:—

10 “(f) for requiring any person holding in stock any essential commodity to sell the whole or a specified part of the stock to the Central Government or a State Government or to an officer or agent of such Government or to such other person or class of persons and in such circumstances as may be specified in the order;”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Under section 3(1) of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, orders can be made to regulate the production, supply and distribution of any essential commodity and trade and commerce therein. As an illustration of this power, clause (f) of sub-section (2) states that an order may be made requiring any person holding in stock any essential commodity to sell the whole or a specified part of the stock to such person or class of persons and in such circumstances as may be specified in the order. Orders have been made by Government from time to time requiring sales of essential commodities to itself or to any officer or agent of the Government. Doubts have now been raised as to whether the expression "person or class of persons" includes the Government or any officer or agent of the Government. The proposed amendment seeks to remove such doubts *ex abundanti cautela*.

A. K. SEN.

NEW DELHI;

The 9th September, 1957.

M. N. KAUL,
Secretary.